Composition 50%

1. Write in English a 150-180 word summary of the following news story. 35%
2. Write in English an 8-15 word headline for the following news story. The headline should be able to present the main points of the news story and catch the reader’s attention. 15%

One afternoon, I was paged to see a man who had passed out while waiting for an appointment. When I arrived, he was lying on his back, awake and looking at the nurses and medical staff bustling around him.

"Are you having chest pain?" I asked. He looked at me directly but did not say anything. I repeated my question in Spanish and French and tapped my hands on my chest to illustrate. Still no answer.

"I speak Creole!" said a well-dressed woman who jumped up from her seat. She said something to the man, who answered her immediately. Over the next five minutes, this woman, a fellow patient who had never met the man before, proceeded to help us extract vital information that guided our treatment.

We found out that the man was 54, was feeling chest pressure and palpitations, and had not taken his heart medications or diabetes pills for a week because he could not afford them. Several minutes later, paramedics arrived and took the man to an emergency room.

In the public clinics of Miami, where I often work, many patients speak Spanish or Haitian Creole. Though many doctors and nurses here speak Spanish (though not always fluently), very few know Creole, a language with French, African and Spanish influences. Communication problems between doctors and patients who speak different languages occur nationwide. According to the 2000 United States census, 19 million people have limited proficiency in English.

As a medical student in Massachusetts a dozen years ago, I remember pediatricians who struggled to explain an emergency procedure to a young Spanish-speaking mother -- and waited an interminably long time for an interpreter to show up.

Many hospitals and clinics hire interpreters. But because of their workloads, physicians often resort to having family members or hospital workers translate, instead of waiting the 30 or 40 minutes it may take for an official interpreter to arrive. A recent study in the journal Pediatrics says that translation errors are common and can be dangerous.

Dr. Glenn Flores and colleagues at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Boston University examined the transcripts of 13 audiotaped visits of Spanish-speaking patients to a pediatrics clinic. Six encounters involved an official hospital interpreter; seven involved an "ad hoc" interpreter like a nurse, social worker or, in one case, an 11-year-old sibling.

The official interpreters made 231 errors; 53 percent of them were judged to have the potential to cause clinical problems. The ad hoc interpreters made 165 errors, and 77 percent of them were potentially dangerous.

Some errors included the interpreters’ omitting questions about drug allergies, telling a parent to put a steroid cream on an infant’s entire body (instead of just the face), telling a mother to give an antibiotic for two days instead of 10, telling a mother to put an oral antibiotic into her child’s ears (instead of his mouth) for a middle-ear infection, and using a Puerto Rican slang word for mumps, which a Central American mother could not understand.

Interpreters sometimes also added comments, like telling a mother not to answer the doctor’s questions about sexually transmitted diseases or drug use.

Although the hospital interpreters’ errors were significantly less likely to cause problems than those of the ad hoc interpreters, the authors wrote, “these findings support the conclusion that most hospital interpreters do not receive adequate training.”

Interpreter errors can also put hospitals and physicians in legal jeopardy. In 1984, a 22-year-old man won a $71 million settlement after he asserted that a group of paramedics, doctors and emergency room workers at a South Florida hospital had misdiagnosed a brain clot.

The patients’ relatives used the Spanish word "Intoxicado" to describe his ailment. They meant that he was nauseated, but the medical staff interpreted the word to mean intoxicated, a valid meaning in some cultures, and treated him for a drug overdose.

When an unofficial interpreter translates, patient confidentiality can be a problem, and this month patient privacy laws become even stricter.
大葉大學 98 學年度 研究所碩士班甄試 招生考試試題紙

系所別 | 組別 | 考試科目 (中文名稱) | 考試日期 | 篇次 | 備註
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應用外語研究所 | 翻譯與作文 | 12月13日 | 第一節 | 單語

註：考生可否攜帶計算機或其他資料作答，請在備註欄註明（如未註明，一律不准攜帶）

Translation: 50％
A: Translate the following into Chinese: 20％

In the early 1950s, soldiers of the two countries were shedding each other’s blood on Korean battlefields. At the time, America’s containment policy, the spectre of monolithic communism, and reciprocal Chinese xenophobic antagonism had doomed the advancement of a positive relationship until the late 1960s.

As a presidential candidate, Richard Nixon stated, ‘any American policy toward Asia must come urgently to grips with the reality of China’. After Nixon’s inauguration in early 1969, several overtures were made to Beijing, including promises to ease restrictions and suspend the Seventh Fleet patrols in the Taiwan Strait. On 15 July 1971, President Nixon surprised the world by announcing that he would visit the PRC in 1972 to ‘seek the normalization of relations between the two countries’. Following his visit, the Shanghai Communiqué was issued in February 1972, setting forth an important framework for the mutual relationship between the PRC and the United States.

On 15 December 1978, President Jimmy Carter of the United States of America and Chairman Hua Guofeng of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) announced their mutual recognition and the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between their two countries as of 1 January 1979. Relations between the US and PRC over the previous thirty years had undergone dramatic changes, the pendulum swinging from hatred to co-operation.

B. Translate the following into English: 30％
1. 他每天都在校園漫步，但樹還是變枯了。 (5％)
2. 當你方便時，請打個電話給我。 (5％)
3. 在主辦國首都的高峰會議中，許多中間路線的國家代表被共黨國家領袖的專斷口氣激怒了。 (10％)
4. 國家為謀全民福利，應實施社會保險制度，尤應對老弱殘廢百姓給予適當之救助。 (10％)